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**Practical Application of:**

Examiner: V. Chawan

Group Art Unit: 2654

April 15, 2005

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## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement set forth in the Office

In the Office Action, it was alleged that the inventions of Group I (Claims 1-25, 37-61, 64, 67 and 68), drawn to “a method and system of audio encoding using probability density functions,” classified in class 704, subclass 240, and Group II (Claims 26-36, 62, 63, 65 and 66), drawn to “transmission and receiving of audio data,” classified in class 704, subclass 201, are distinct from each other because the invention of Group I has separate utility such as audio encoding using probability density functions.

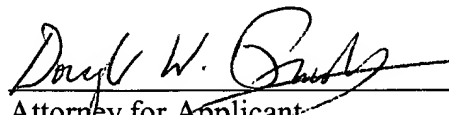
However, Applicant respectfully submits that the two groups of claims are closely related and that a proper search of any of the claims of one group would likely include a search of the claims of the other group. Thus, it is submitted that all of the claims can be searched simultaneously and that a duplicative search with possibly inconsistent results may occur if the restriction requirement is maintained. Therefore, in the interest of economy, both for the Office and Applicant, withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully solicited.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.143, Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Group I, namely, Claims 1-25, 37-61, 64, 67 and 68.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. Office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Douglas W. Pinsky", is written over a horizontal line.

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